

*Whitehall*

**C.R.**  
**MIN. OF HEALTH**  
**20 OCT 1938**  
**29**

**To the TREGARON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

**RECEIVED**  
**20 OCT 1938**

*Mr Chairman, Mrs. Benjamin Jones and Gentlemen—*

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my annual report for the year 1937.

Very few changes have been effected during the course of the year in matters of Public Health, and I am pleased to report that the district was practically free from 'epidemics' of any kind.

The Death Rate is as usual a heavy one, but is slightly less than that of the previous year.

Deaths from Tuberculosis number four, and this is a decrease again on last year.

**Statistics and comments :**

1. Area in acres—121,546.  
Population, 5,545.  
Inhabited houses, 1,900.  
Number of persons per house, 2 9  
Rateable value, £7,559.  
Sum represented by a penny rate, £32.
2. *Total Births—Live Births—39 Males, 27 Females. Total live births 66.*  
Illegitimate—6 Males, 1 Female  
Still Births 7—4 Males, 3 Females, all legitimate.  
Birth rate per 1,000 population is 13·2.  
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 is 11·9, that for England and Wales being 14·9.  
Deaths of children under 1 year—1  
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1 000 live births—15.  
Deaths—Total deaths number 116.  
Death Rate per 1,000 is 20·9, as against 12·4 for England and Wales.

The chief causes of deaths were as follows :—

Heart disease	...	...	...	...	40
Cancer	...	...	...	...	17
Tuberculosis of Lungs	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculosis of other than lungs	...	...	...	...	1
Nephritis...	...	...	...	...	6
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	6
Brouchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza...	...	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	2

Suicide ... ..	3
Other violence ... ..	3
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	Nil
Other childbirth causes ... ..	Nil
Whooping Cough ... ..	1
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1
Diphtheria ... ..	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	2
Diabetes ... ..	2

### *General Provision of Health Services.*

1. *Public Health Officers of the Authority*—(a) *Medical*.—You have one part time Medical Officer. The Tuberculosis work is carried out by the King Edward Memorial Association, while the work connected with Venereal Diseases, Maternity, and Child Welfare is carried out by the County Medical Officer.

2. *Nursing in the Home*.—There is now a District Nurse available for all Maternity Cases occurring within the Union, and the services of these nurses are also available for any general nursing work which occurs.

There is no Isolation Hospital in the district, so that all infectious diseases have to be treated in their homes.

3. *Poor Law Medical Out Relief*.—The work is entrusted to the Members of the District Council together with the members of the County Council, and is carried on quite satisfactory.

4. *Laboratory Facilities*.—The analysis for clinical work is carried out by the County Medical Officer.

The Milk Analysis, both for quality and for Tuberculosis are carried out by the Aberystwyth University College.

The water is analysed by Mr. John Evans, of Sheffield, who is also the County Analyst.

5. All surgical cases are treated at the Aberystwyth Infirmary in a most satisfactory manner.

Mental deficiency cases are sent to Carmarthen Homes by arrangement with the Carmarthen County Council, acute cases being sent to to Three Counties Mental Home at Carmarthen.

6. Difficult Maternity Cases, as well as any Maternity Cases where home conditions are unsuitable may be sent to the County Maternity Wards at Aberystwyth, where they are under the supervision of the County Medical Officer and a Medical Staff.

7. *Ambulance Facilities*.—Accidents and all ordinary surgical and non-infectious cases are usually moved by means of motor cars. There is, however, an ambulance available at Aberystwyth, if required.

8. *Clinical and Treatment Cases*.—The County Medical Officer together with the County Dental Officer and the different District Nurses visit all schools periodically, but it is regrettable that there are no Maternity or Child Welfare Clinics available.

9. *Water Supply*.—Tregaron has a piped water supply which is adequate for all present requirements.

Llangeitho.—The village now draws its supply through pipes from Maesyronen Springs.

Pontrhydfendigaid.—The village now has an adequate supply of water, a hydrostat having recently been installed which pumps water into reservoir.

Llanddewi Brefi.—The water supply to this village is most unsatisfactory for reasons reported in previous reports. I trust that a scheme may soon be devised, satisfactory to both the Council and villagers, whereby the inhabitants may obtain a sufficient supply of water for consumption within reasonable access to their homes, and also that the drainage system for the village may be improved upon.

10. *Rivers and Streams*.—The pollution of the rivers at Tregaron and Llanddewi Brefi still continues, although since the engaging of a 'Refuse Cart' for collection of refuse once weekly it occurs to a lesser extent in Tregaron itself. I would like the Council to consider if possible the collection of 'Refuse' twice weekly as then there would be no excuse for any dumping of refuse in the river.

11. *Housing*.—Much has been done during the past year or so in improving the conditions of some of the older houses, but there is still room for improvements. There is evidently in the district a demand for new houses of reasonable rent.

12. *Factories and Workshops*.—These are visited periodically and are satisfactory.

There are no 'Swimming Baths' nor Pools in the district.

*Bed Bugs*.—There were no cases of Bed Bugs occurring in the district. Disinfection when required is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

*Schools*.—All the schools have a water supply which is either a pump or gravity service. The sanitation at the schools is on the whole satisfactory, there being water closets, water carriage systems, or dry earth systems in all schools. In all cases of infectious conditions occurring in schools, the infected children and contacts are excluded from school for the requisite period, and if spreading occurs the schools are closed.

There occurred no serious 'epidemics' of any kind during 1937.

Four cases of scarlet fever, seven of pneumonia, and two of Cerebro-spinal meningitis were notified.

All infectious diseases are treated in their homes.

*Scarlet Fever*—4 cases were notified; 1 age 15 years; 1 age 80 years; 1 age 7 years; 1 age 8 years; 1 death age 80 years.

*Pneumonia*—Seven cases notified; 1 age 62 years; 1 age 63 years; 1 age 79 years; 1 age 36 years; 1 age 24 years; 1 age 18 years; 1 age 7 years.

There were three deaths from 'pneumonia'—ages 79 years; 62 years and 7 years.

*Cerebro Spinal Meningitis*.—2 cases notified—1 age 8 years, and 1 age 5 years, both died.

13. *Tuberculosis*.—There is a Tuberculosis Hospital in Tregaron, which is equipped with an up-to-date X-ray apparatus.

All suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred to the local Tuberculosis physician, who is always ready to investigate all cases so referred and owing to the friendly co-operation between the Tuberculosis Phys-

sician and the various General Practitioners, all cases of Tuberculosis occurring in the district with very few exceptions are diagnosed and treated in the early stages.

All Tuberculosis cases diagnosed as such are notified.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ... ..								
1 ... ..								
5 ... ..								
10 ... ..								
15 ... ..				1				1
20 ... ..						2		
25 ... ..	1							
35 ... ..								
45 ... ..								
55 ... ..					1			
65 and upwards								
Totals ...	1			1	1	2		1

In all cases after deaths occurring from Tuberculosis, the houses, clothing, etc., are disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector, and all articles such as feather beds, mattresses, etc., which cannot be properly disinfected are burned, and in certain necessitous cases the cost of replacement of articles so destroyed is borne by the District Council.

## Sanitary Report.

Number of houses erected during the year :

1. By the Local Authority ... ..	—
2. By other bodies or persons with State Assistance ... ..	—
Rural Workers Act 1926. Reconditioned ... ..	6
3. By other bodies or persons without State Assistance ... ..	2
Drainage and Sewerage. No action taken during the year.	
Closet Accommodation. Number of Pail Closets converted into Water Closets ... ..	6
Refuse Removal—A weekly removal of Refuse is carried out at Tregaron.	

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Number of Inspections of Dwelling Houses ... ..	80
Number of Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	130



Number of Inspections of Milk Carts	...	...	...	20
Number of Inspections of Workshops and Bakehouses	...	...	...	10
Number of Inspections of Slaughter Houses...	...	...	...	60
Number of Inspections of Meat Shops and Vans	..	...	...	30
Number of Inspection of Schools	...	...	...	10
Number of Houses visited upon Notification of Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	14
Number of Houses disinfected after Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	7
Number of Inspections of Drains	...	...	...	20

*Notices served under the Public Health Acts.*

Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	19
Number of Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	5
Number of Statutory Notices served	..	...	...	2
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	—
Number of Prosecutions	...	...	...	—
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	—
Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations	...	...	...	—

*Schools.*

Number of Schools with Water Closets	...	...	...	4
Others with Pail Closets and Dry Earth System.	...	...	...	
Rag Flocks Act. No Action.	...	...	...	

*Housing.*

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :				
(a) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for Housing Defects under Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	80
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	80
2. (a) Number of Dwelling Houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	16
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	16
3. Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	8
4. Number of Dwelling Houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	8

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.*

Number of Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal Action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	3
--	-----	-----	-----	---

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*

(a) Proceedings under section 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	—
1. Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	—
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice...	...	...	...	—
(a) By owner	...	...	...	—

	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...
	(h) Proceedings under the Public Health Act.		
1.	Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	—
2.	Number of houses in which defects were remedied after Service of Formal Notice	...	—
	(a) By owner	...	—
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	—
	(c) Proceedings under Section 19 and 21 of Housing Act, 1930.		
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	—
2.	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	—
	(d) Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930.		
1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	...	—
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	...	—
	Housing Act, 1935. Overcrowding.		
1.	Number of dwelling houses that were overcrowded at the end of the year	...	17
2.	Number of families dwelling therein	...	17
3.	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	83
4.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	1
5.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	3
6.	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	22
7.	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	—

#### *Milk Samples.*

Number of samples of Grade A.T.T. Milk taken during the year	12
Number of samples of Accredited Milk taken during the year	90
Number of Inspections made to Cowsheds	130
Number of Notices served	12
Number of Inspections of Retailing Milk Carts	20

#### *Meat Inspection.*

All carcases examined were found to be of good quality and it has not been necessary to condemn other than few livers showing liver disease.

#### *Slaughter Houses.*

The number of private Slaughter Houses in the district is	13
Number of visits made during the year	60
There is no public slaughter house in the district.	

Inspection of Shops and Vehicles ... ..	30
A number of visits to shops were made for the detection of un- sound food ... ..	10
It has not been necessary to seize any article of unsound food.	

*Bakehouse.*

The number of bakehouses in the district is ... ..	5
Number of visits made ... ..	20

*Factories and Workshops.*

There are a few in the district, mostly carpenter's, and blacksmith's  
and garages. Inspected - 10

In conclusion I should like to thank the Council and the Sanitary  
Inspector for their advice and co operation at all times.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. J. WILLIAMS.

